

MINUTES

DRAFT

**THOMAS TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
THOMAS TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
8215 SHIELDS DRIVE, SAGINAW, MICHIGAN
WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021, 7 O’CLOCK P.M.**

Electronic remote access via teleconference per PA 267 of 1976/PA 228 of 2020 and Local Emergency Declaration dated April 8, 2021 made available

- Members Physically Present: R. Iamurri, P. Lynch, D. Sommers, D. Bird, and J. Curry
- Members Present via “Zoom”: K. Beam (Saginaw)
- Members Absent: S. Yockey
- Others Physically Present: D. Sika, Community Development Director
C. Watt, Planning Assistant/Code Enforcement Officer

Mr. Iamurri called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Mr. Sommers, supported by Mr. Lynch, to approve the agenda as presented.

VOTE	6 YEAS	0 NAYS	1 ABSENT	MOTION CARRIED
	YEAS: Sommers, Bird, Iamurri, Lynch, Curry, Beam			
	NAYS: None			
	ABSENT: Yockey			

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Mr. Lynch, supported by Mrs. Curry to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2021 meeting.

VOTE 6 YEAS 0 NAYS 1 ABSENT MOTION CARRIED

YEAS: Iamurri, Lynch, Beam, Curry, Sommers, Bird

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Yockey

Old Business:

A. 2021 Business/Organization of the Year Results.

All votes for the 2021 Business/Organization of the Year that were received were tallied and the results are As follows:

Small Business Category:

- Winner-Shields Quick Lube
- Honorable Mention-Frankenmuth Credit Union

Large Business Category:

- Winner-Saginaw Control & Engineering
- Honorable Mention-Covenant

A tentative date of Wednesday, June 9th is being considered for appointments to deliver certificates to these businesses.

Motion by Mr. Lynch, supported by Mr. Sommers to award the winners and honorable mentions to the following businesses as listed above; Shields Quick Lube, Frankenmuth Credit Union, Saginaw Control & Engineering and Covenant.

VOTE 6 YEAS 0 NAYS 1 ABSENT MOTION CARRIED

YEAS: Bird, Iamurri, Lynch, Beam, Curry, Sommers

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Yockey

B. Discussion Only-Review of four possible text amendments:

Minimum Acreage for Condo Developments-Mr. Sika noted that currently there is a ten (10) acre minimum for condominium developments. The thought is to change this so that construction could take place on a single lot if desired. Most communities do allow this and in discussing with the Township Attorney, there is no reason that could be thought of for a ten acre minimum requirement.

Cell Tower Camouflage-to reduce how visible these towers can be. Mr. Sommers did note that in some regards it does draw more attention to the pole and is an ugly solution. He felt there needs to be wording so that in some cases it would not be necessary especially if it does not fit into the existing surroundings. Mr. Sika noted that some additional changes to the cell tower ordinance to consider would be the height requirement, changing the color of the tower poles to make them more of a fit to the surroundings as well.

Future Right-of-Way Easement Requirement-to ensure that new construction is far enough back to allow for future right-of-way.

Regulation of Food Trucks-Mr. Sommers felt it makes a lot of sense to require a permit for them. The idea of not allowing them within so many feet of a permanent business that provides food was thought to be a good one. Charging a fee as well as setting a time requirement was also thought to be ideal.

Further work will be done to provide the Planning Commission with a draft of these text amendments for review and discussion at a future meeting.

Adjournment:

Motion by Mr. Sommers, supported by Mr. Bird to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Motion carried.